

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Shaginaw et al. Docket No.: 31991.00005
Application No.: 10/006,167 Group Art Unit: 2161
Filing Date: December 4, 2001 Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
Title: METHOD, SYSTEM AND DATA STRUCTURE FOR AN IMPROVED BILLING PROTOCOL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO
37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Commissioner:

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In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.97-1.98, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each cited document is submitted herewith.

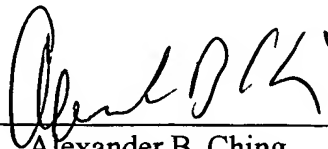
The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant reserves the right to dispute any of the listed documents as prior art during examination. Further, Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application. Furthermore, the submission of this Information Disclosure Statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made or that no other material information may exist.

Applicant respectfully submits that all pending claims are patentable over the foregoing references, alone or in combination. The Examiner is requested to initial the enclosed Form PTO-1449 and return a copy thereof to the undersigned.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of receipt of the references in a search report from the European Patent Office as PCT searching authority and therefore no fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

Respectfully submitted,

7-15-2003
Date

By 
Alexander B. Ching
Reg. No. 41,669

Enclosures: PTO-1449 w/Cited references
Transmittal, Statement



CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8

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I, Lisa Mansur, hereby certify that this correspondence, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.8, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to:

Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on:

Date: July 16, 2003

By Lisa Mansur

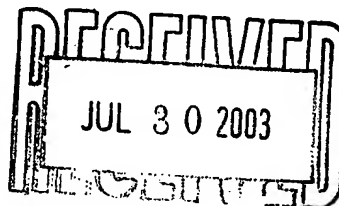
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TRANSMITTAL PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.97-1.98

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Submitted herewith pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) are enclosed (1) the Information Disclosure Statement, (2) Information Disclosure Citation PTO Form 1449, and (3) cited references. No certification under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) is required.

This statement does NOT authorize charge of the issue fee. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee specifically authorized hereafter, or any deficiency in the fee(s) filed, or asserted to be filed, or which should have been filed herewith or concerning any paper filed hereafter, and which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16-1.18 (deficiency only) now or hereafter relative to this Application and the resulting Official document under 37 C.F.R. §1.20, or credit any overpayment to Account No. 19-3878 for which purpose a duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

7-15-2003

Date

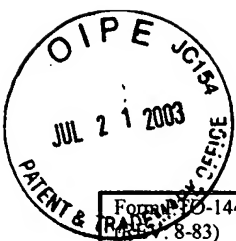
By

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Form 10-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 31991.00005	APPLICATION NO. 10/006,167
	APPLICANT Shaginaw et al.	
	FILING DATE December 4, 2001	GROUP 2161
	TITLE: METHOD, SYSTEM AND DATA STRUCTURE FOR AN IMPROVED BILLING PROTOCOL	

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,324,525	11/27/2001	Kramer et al.			
		6,128,602	10/03/2000	Northington et al.			
		2002/0178118 A1	11/28/2002	Hamilton et al.			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB- CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER**DATE CONSIDERED**

***EXAMINER:** Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.